

Watford Amnesty Group

January/February 2015 newsletter

Next public meeting: What is life like in Myanmar/Burma?

Monday 26 January, 8pm

St Mary's church, High Street, Watford WD18 0EG

The speaker will be Mark Chamberlain, communications officer for international aid agency CAFOD. Mark has recently returned from visiting communities and development projects in Myanmar, also known as Burma, in areas of the country where Cyclone Nargis hit in 2008. This is a fascinating country that members will remember having campaigned on in the past, but may have heard very little about recently in the media. This is a chance to come with your questions and get a personal, up-to-date view of life inside Myanmar.

Christmas cheer

Thanks to everyone who joined us to write cards and letters to prisoners of conscience and human rights defenders in December as part of the *Write for Rights* campaign. In total, we sent 103 cards and 8 letters to countries as diverse as Saudi Arabia, Norway and Guatemala.

Our Amnesty Christmas tree was also admired for its originality and thought-provoking message at the Christmas tree festival held at St Mary's Church in December.

Subscriptions reminder

If you haven't yet paid your subscriptions – it's not late. You can either send a cheque (with your name on the back) to Monique Jowers at 91 Kenilworth Drive, Croxley Green WD3 3NN or transfer the money online to sort code 60-00-08, account number 05231914 and let Monique know. Thank you! The amount for an individual is £6 and a family is £10.

Amnesty National Conference and AGM 2015

Amnesty's National Conference & AGM takes place on 18-19 April 2015 at Warwick University. All Amnesty International members can attend and vote. Please visit <https://amnesty.org.uk/agm> for more information and how to book your place.

Urgent Action Network

Did you know you can receive urgent actions from Amnesty straight to your email inbox from the Urgent Action Network? The Urgent Action Network protects people from torture, helps free men and women who are wrongly - and sometimes secretly - detained, and secures access to medical treatment or legal counsel for prisoners. It even saves lives. It's all about acting fast – sending an email, fax or letter as soon as possible – to help some in urgent need. To join the network, and to decide how many actions and updates you want to receive visit: www.amnesty.org.uk/join-urgent-action-network

Contact details

Visit our website: www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/watford

Would you like to join the group or pay subs?

Contact membership secretary Monique Jowers on 01923 774 621 or jowerscroxley@gmail.com

Do you have an enquiry about the group website or publicity ideas?

Contact Mark Nicholas on marknicholas999@hotmail.com

Do you have items for the newsletter, ideas for future meetings or activities, or other enquiries?

Contact Sarah Hagger-Holt on sarah_eve@tiscali.co.uk or 07761 660 370

NEW ACTIVIST PROJECT
**REFUGEE, ASYLUM
SEEKER AND
MIGRANT RIGHTS
IN THE UK**



**Are you interested in these rights?
Are you keen to campaign in your community?
Do you want to collaborate with activists
across the country?**

Then get involved! Join our initial meeting on 17 January to discuss the work Amnesty is doing and how activists can take this forward.

When: 17 January, 11am-4pm

Where: The Human Rights Action Centre, 17-25 New Inn Yard,
London EC2A 3EA

Fill out the form below if you want to come to the meeting, or for further information. If you're unable to attend there will be other opportunities to get involved.

[Amnestyuk.wufoo.com/forms/refugee-activist-project-kickoff-17th-jan/](https://amnestyuk.wufoo.com/forms/refugee-activist-project-kickoff-17th-jan/)

